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Client Docket No.: 1998P01301WOUS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for removing ATM cells from a frame in a waiting list, comprising:

storing a frame start identifier that identifies an ATM cell in the waiting list that precedes a first ATM cell of the frame; and

calling the frame start identifier before removal of the ATM cell of the frame;

wherein the frame begins farthest toward a back of the waiting list.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

removing ATM cells from the frame beginning farthest toward a back of the waiting list frame.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

removing following ATM cells of the frame up to and including a last ATM cell of the frame upon arrival or following arrival at the waiting list.

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4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first ATM cell of the frame is immediately preceded by a last ATM cell of a different frame, and further comprising:

referencing ~~said~~ the last ATM cell by the frame start identifier.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first ATM cell of the frame is immediately preceded by an individual ATM cell not allocated to a frame, and further comprising:

referencing the individual ATM cell by the frame start identifier.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for removing ATM cells from a frame in a waiting list, comprising:

~~not~~ storing a predetermined inhibit value so that the ATM cells of the frame cannot be removed from the waiting list when the first ATM cell of the frame is followed in the waiting list by an individual ATM cell not allocated to any frame;

wherein the frame begins farthest toward a back of the waiting list.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined inhibit value is stored at least on of upon arrival of the individual ATM cell at the waiting list and when the individual ATM cell is added to the waiting list.

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8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:
performing a check at or following attaching of an arrived ATM cell to an end of the
waiting list to see whether the arrived ATM cell is a last cell of frame; and
as warranted, storing a value that references the arriving ATM cell as the frame start
identifier;
wherein the ATM cells of the appertaining frame cannot be removed from the waiting
list.